

REMARKS

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph as being indefinite.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) given Fuchs et al. (U.S. Patent 6,510,387) (“Fuchs”). The applicant respectfully traverses these rejections and requests reconsideration.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph. In particular, the Examiner noted that the expression “for receiving and information” in line 10 appeared unclear. Pursuant to this response, Claim 1 has been extensively modified. The applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner’s particular expressed concern has been well accommodated via these changes. The language in question now reads, “and for receiving changes to the trucking and shipping information.”

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected as being anticipated by Fuchs. Fuchs describes an approach to effect correction of a pseudo-range model from a global positioning system almanac. Mobile devices are located over a wide area using a wireless communications link having a large and unknown latency. The mobile units receive global positioning system signals and perform rudimentary signal processing, with the resulting processed signals being transmitted via a wireless carrier to a position server. The latter processes the mobile unit’s global positioning system data and reference network information to identify the specific location of the mobile unit. That location is then sent to a location requester.

As per this response, Claims 1 and 2 have been significantly modified. For example, Claim 1 now specifies an apparatus for providing information comprising trucking and shipping information. This apparatus includes a hub server that stores a relational database of relation data comprising trucking and shipping information, for receiving changes from network nodes as correspond to the trucking and shipping information, and for sending those changes to the network nodes such that the hub server facilitates network wide synchronization of the trucking and shipping information. This apparatus also includes a local area network that is at least partially wireless and that couples to the above indicated nodes for providing communication with one or more client computing devices that store and receive the trucking and shipping information and that further serve to provide an interface to

Application No. 09/836,989
Amendment dated December 30, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 30, 2004

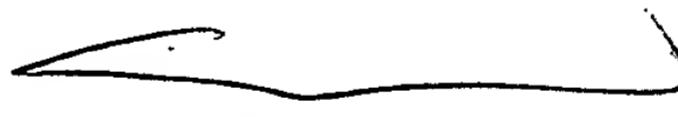
that relation data as maintained by the hub server. To a large extent, such teachings are simply absent from Fuchs.

Similarly, independent Claim 2 sets forth a method of handling trucking and shipping information that comprises relation data stored at a database server via a distributed set of application servers. This method includes receiving information comprising modifications to that information from at least one of the application servers, scheduling a broadcast to multiple application servers, which broadcast comprises changes to that information, and transmitting such changes from the database server using that broadcast mechanism. Again, such teachings are absent from Fuchs.

The applicant therefore respectfully submits that Fuchs does not anticipate the subject matter of either Claim 1 or Claim 2. Pursuant to this response, the applicant has also introduced some dependent claims (i.e., Claims 3-7). These dependent claims set forth additional specificity with regards to the subject matter of Claim 1. The applicant respectfully submits that these dependent claims set forth additional patentable subject matter, particularly when viewed in context with the claim or claims from which they depend.

There being no other objections to or rejections of the claims, the applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-7 may be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Steven G. Parmelee
Registration No. 28,790

Date: December 30, 2004

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY
Suite 1600
120 South LaSalle
Chicago, Illinois 60603-3406
Telephone: (312) 577-7000
Facsimile: (312) 577-700